

REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are requested. Claims 1 to 10 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1 and 6 are the independent claims.

Claims 1 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Goldwasser et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,737,921.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite an "offset corresponding to one of the series of video images." Goldwasser does not teach or describe determining an offset "corresponding to one of the series of video images." Goldwasser defines an offset as "a relative offset of the mini-image with respect to the combined image" (see column 19 lines 46-47). Goldwasser uses an offset to determine where a mini-image should be depicted within a combined image. Thus, Goldwasser's offset is merely a spatial orientation of where a slice of a mini-image is taken along Cartesian X, Y and/or Z directions (see column 14 lines 35-50 of Goldwasser). For example, taking a slice of a nose or an arm of a virtual patient image. On the other/hand, an offset described by the Applicants points to one video image of a patient from multiple patient images over a range. For example, a video image of a virtual patient determined based on weight (see page line 29 to page 30 line 12 of the specification). Therefore claim 1, should be allowed.

Claim 6 has been amended to recite an "offset corresponding to one of the series of video images." For the same reasons described for amended claim 1, Goldwasser does not teach or describe determining an offset "corresponding to one of the series of video images." Therefore, Claim 6 should also be allowed.

Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldwasser et al. in view of Iyriboz et al. U.S. Patent No. 6,369,812.

Neither Goldwasser nor Iyriboz separately or in combination teach or describe "corresponding to one of the series of video images." Therefore, claims 2 and 7 should be allowed for the same reasons that claim 1 and claim 6 should be allowed.

Claims 3-5, and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Goldwasser et al. U.S. Patent No. 4,737,921 in view of Linford et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,825,941.

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Neither Goldwasser nor Linford separately or in combination teach or describe "corresponding to one of the series of video images." Therefore, claims 3-5 and 8-10 should be allowed for the same reasons that claims 1 and claim should be allowed.

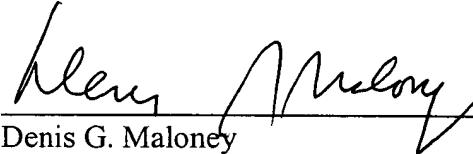
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Enclosed is a check for \$55 for a One-Month Extension. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 12/30/02



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Version with markings to show changes made

In the specification:

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 0 has been amended as follows:

[Morphing]Morphing Patient Features Using An Offset

Paragraph beginning at page 1, line 6 has been amended as follows:

Reference to Related Applications

This application relates to the following applications U.S. Ser. No. 603,368[], entitled "Virtual Patient Hot Spots", filed June 26, 2000[]; U.S. Ser. No. 603,604[], entitled "Web Simulator", filed June 26, 2000 []; U.S. Ser. No. 603,045[], entitled "Patient Simulator", filed June 26, 2000[].

In the claims:

Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 8 and 10 have been amended as follows:

1. (Once Amended) A method of displaying [an] a video image of at least a portion of a virtual patient, the method comprising:

accessing identification of a video file, the video file comprising a series of video images [data] that depicts virtual patient features over a range of said features;

determining an offset into the video file, the offset corresponding to one of the series of video images; and

presenting the one of the series of video images [the video image] corresponding to the offset.

3. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the virtual patient features comprise[state data comprises] at least one of the following: age and weight.

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5. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the video image comprises a video that morphs an image of a virtual patient from slim to heavyset.

6. (Once Amended) A computer program product, disposed on a computer readable medium, for displaying [an] a video image of at least a portion of a virtual patient, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

access identification of a video file, the video file comprising a series of video images [data] that depicts virtual patient features over a range of said features;

determine an offset into the video file, the offset corresponding to one of the series of video images; and

present the one of the series of video images [the video image] corresponding to the offset.

8. (Once Amended) The computer program of claim 6, wherein the virtual patient features comprise[state data comprises] at least one of the following: age and weight.

10. (Once Amended) The computer program of claim 6, wherein the video image comprises a video that morphs an image of a virtual patient from slim to heavyset.